

Appl. No. 10/502,036

Reply to Office Action of April 12, 2006

REMARKS

Applicant thanks Examiner for acknowledging receipt of foreign priority document, Japanese Application No. JP2002-17622, that has been submitted pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 119 and/or PCT Rule 17.2(a).

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 5. Applicant has amended claim 4 to include all of the limitations of dependent claim 5. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 4 is now in condition for allowance.

Applicants have added new claim 6 in order to alternately define the invention. In regard to this new claim, Applicants submit that the Kanayama reference is not a valid prior art reference under 35 U.S.C. § 102. More specifically, Applicant's January 25, 2002 foreign priority date Kanayama earliest available prior art date (Nov. 19, 2002 under 102(e)). Applicants submit herewith, or will submit shortly thereafter, a certified translation of the priority document in order to eliminate this reference.

In regard to the Examiner's objection to claims 1, 4, and 5, Applicant has canceled claims 1 and 5. Furthermore, Applicant has amended claim 4 in order to more specifically set forth the source of the light and the relationship between the claimed structures. Applicants have further amended the claims in order to clarify the novelty of the invention. If the Examiner finds that the language of the claims remains confusing, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the Applicant by phone so that any deficiencies in language can be remedied quickly and efficiently.

Applicant submits that none of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest the currently claimed optimal mathematical relationship between the tilt angle of the optical

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axis of the illumination light and the aspect ratio of the integrator. As a result of the claimed invention, display efficiency is improved, lowering of contrast of the display image is suppressed, and a bright illumination optical system having low F number can be used.

Examiner's remaining references cited but not relied upon, considered either alone or in combination, also fail to teach Applicant's currently claimed invention. In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

8/14/06
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